



MONTGOMERY/PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY CHAPTER

Executive Committee FY 2009-2010 Meeting Minutes November 17, 2009 Conference Call

Present: Angela Walter – President
Yehuda Schmidt – Past President
Andrew Lewis – Treasurer, President Elect
Alex Dickey – Co-Treasurer
Christine Tritsch – Early Careers
Carol Boothe – Education
Scott Turnbull – Membership
Dawn Beatty – Program
Scott Binder – Sponsorship
Eric Rasmussen - Sponsorship
Corinne Dougherty – Webmaster
Flora Milans – Capital Region, Vice-President Elect

The meeting was called to order at 12:00n

Minutes

The minutes to the Board meeting in October were approved by the Board.

Recognition

Yehuda Schmidt reminded the Board to send him any items that would count towards the Chapter's recognition program.

FY2009-10 Financials

Andrew Lewis presented FY2009-10 Financials as of 9/30/09 and 10/31/09.

- There was not much activity going on in the month of October as the Chapter did not have a dinner meeting. Financial condition of the chapter is sound.
- An email will be sent out to the Board related to charging government persons a reduced rate at our dinner meetings. The plan is to advertise this rate starting with our January dinner meeting. In addition the charging of this lower rate has been incorporated into our budget.

Alex Dickey discussed the fact that our policies have been approved, and we have received conditional approval from Elavon, MC, Visa, Discover, & AMEX to open a new merchant id for credit card processing via the internet. Alex has completed the registration process and will be working with Corinne to begin the integration process with our web-site.

Corporate Sponsorship

Scott Binder provided an update on sponsors for FY2009-10. Outstanding sponsors are Clifton Gunderson LLP, KPMG, Savantage Solutions, and PwC. Follow-up emails were sent to Clifton Gunderson and Savantage Solutions on November 11, 2009. Eric Rasmussen will follow-up with KPMG. Scott Binder will work with Mike Loos and with PwC's marketing coordinator on their sponsorship.



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Scott Binder brought up the idea about allowing the Corporate Sponsors to advertise job openings on our website. The Board authorized the Sponsorship Committee to notify the chapter's sponsors that it would add their vacancy announcements on the chapter's website as a service to them. The Board discussed and reiterated its policy not to post non-sponsors' private sector vacancies, but would continue to post government vacancies that our members provide to the webmaster.

Angela Walter brought up the Job Fair and Networking opportunities for the Corporate Sponsors. As a benefit to being a Corporate Sponsor the Chapter has offered a Job Fair and Networking Event before a dinner meeting for the Corporate Sponsors' participation. Last year's event was not strongly attended. We did not schedule a Job Fair and Networking Event before a dinner meeting for this year. We have asked Scott and Eric to come up with a plan to hold a separate Job Fair and Networking Event for our Corporate Sponsors. At the UMUC Accounting Professional Night and Job Fair we did contact our Corporate Sponsors for their inclusion in this event.

Program

Dawn Beatty mentioned that other than the April dinner meeting, all other monthly meeting speakers have been scheduled. She will follow-up with Doreen Shute on securing the speaker for the April meeting. Dawn also mentioned if the Board had any suggestions for a speaker during that month then please provide her with the information. The speaker for the November meeting is set. The speaker will not have any slides as it is a motivational type presentation.

Community Services Plan

The Chapter sponsors a community event in the month of December for the National Center for Children and Families. It is usually held at a Baptist Church facility in Silver Spring, Maryland. It was held on December 15, 2008. We intend to participate in this event this year. Troy Hailey made contact with the person in charge of the Family Stabilization Program (Alisha Matlock) and is waiting to hear back from her in regards to the names, ages, and genders of the youth in the program. Also, she mentioned that last year AGA provided desserts, salads, bread/rolls, and cold cuts. We will be providing these items again. Troy is working with Doreen Shute on finding some arts and craft things for the kids to do as well.

Early Career

Christine Tritsch mentioned that the early career happy hour that was held jointly with the DC and NOVA chapters was a success. There was a good showing of early careers from our Chapter at the event.

Angela Walter mentioned the specifics about the UMUC job fair and networking event that was being held later this evening. Rodneikka Scott, Membership Manager from AGA National will be there to help us manage our table. Rodneikka will be bringing AGA/CGFM brochures and pens to the event. Angela is bringing our AGA brochures, and copies of the December winter workshop flyer. Job Fair and Networking is from 6:00 – 7:30, and from 7:30 – 8:30 is a panel discussion. Flora Milans is one of the panelists.

Education

Carol Boothe informed the Board that she has had 31 RSVPs and 8 of the 31 RSVPs are from the Board members. The capacity for this event is 70 attendees. Next week the plan is to visit the facilities to make sure everything will be in good shape for the workshop.

Membership

Scott mentioned that there has been some progress on the suspended members list and will look into getting the specifics.

Flora Milans mentioned about National's AGA Member-Get-A-Member program. If you recruit 6 members by December 31, 2009 you would receive next year's membership dues renewal free, and recruiting enough members you would received complimentary registration to AGA's 2010 Professional Development Conference & Exposition in Orlando, FL.

Webmaster

Corinne will look into seeing how to establish Facebook for our Chapter.

Corinne mentioned that she was on the task force to update the criteria for the national website contest. She mentioned about starting on a trial basis a new layout for the AGA monthly emails. There is a company called Constant Contact, that we can use to send professional looking emails, that can look like our website, i.e., in HTML format. In addition, this service will help her manage our distribution list and also provide statistics to see what links people clicked on, which will help us determine what events are more popular. It will cost about \$15 a month. We can get a 60 day free trial to see if we would like it.

Corinne had mentioned that Andrew Lewis raised the following concerns:

1. Would the company have access to our distribution list and thereby be able to sell our contacts or use our e-mail addresses without our knowledge?
2. Would our e-mail message be perceived by the corporate and government e-mail servers as spam?

In response to Andrew's concerns Corinne mentioned the following:

For the first concern regarding selling our contact list, Constant Contact's privacy policy states that they do not sell, share or rent our contact list with third parties. In addition, they say that they work with various ISP providers to ensure delivery of emails sent. We will get a report to show what emails were returned as undeliverable.

For the second concern since another AGA chapter uses it, I would think we shouldn't have an issue with government servers detecting it as spam. During the trial period, we can see if we get a lot of returned emails. If we do, we can either work with Constant Contact to get the issue resolved or choose to not use the service anymore.

The Board agreed to use the next month as a trial basis.

Other

- Angela Walter has asked Stu Sklamm to look into starting a mentoring program for the chapter like the one the DC chapter is offering to its members.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm

Next Board meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2010 @ 6:00 (Ambrosia Grill)